

REMARKS

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

New claims 25 and 26 are added.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-6, 8-11 and 24-26 are currently pending.

II. OBJECTION TO CLAIM 24

Claim 24 is amended to overcome the objection.

**III. REJECTION OF CLAIMS 8 AND 24 UNDER 35 USC 102(B)
AS BEING ANTICIPATED BY TAKAZONO (JP 02001055202A)**

Claim 24 is amended to recite a strip of packaging material wound around a hollow core for use in packaging a product, and that a support shaft provided with a reading device extends into the hollow core to thereby support the roll. Further, claim 24 is amended to recite a recording medium provided on the inner surface of the hollow core, wherein the recording medium records packaging related information that is readable by the reading device in a non-contact fashion through a resonance phenomenon of radio waves while the strip is wound around said hollow core and the roll is supported by the support shaft.

Support for the amendments is found, for example, in FIGS. 5a through 5g, and, for example, in the disclosure on page 27, line 14, through page 32, line 15, of the specification.

In Takazono, a recording medium is not provided on an inner surface of a hollow core around which a strip of packaging material is wound. Instead, in Takazono, an identifier is provided *on the packaging material*. See, for example, symbol 11 in FIGS. 2, 4, 5 and 6 of Takazono.

Therefore, the general nature and use of the identifier in Takazono is significantly different than that recited, for example, in claim 24.

Moreover, Takazono does not disclose a recording medium that is readable by a reading device in a non-contact fashion through a resonance phenomenon of radio waves.

Instead, Takazono discloses the use of bar codes, and a bar code reader. The bar code reader of Takazono includes a black light 5 to emit light at the bar codes, and an image sensor 4 to detect the emitted light that reflects off the bar codes. See, for example, paragraph [0021] of Takazono. Therefore, Takazono requires a direct light path from black light 5 to the bar codes, and from bar codes to image sensor 4. Accordingly, it would be very difficult to use the bar code

reader of Takazono if the recording medium was on the inner surface of a hollow core around which a strip of packaging material was wound, as recited, for example, in claim 1.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection is overcome.

IV. REJECTION OF CLAIMS 1-6 AND 9-11 UNDER 35 USC 103 AS BEING OBVIOUS OVER TAKAZONO IN VIEW OF ZIMMERMAN (US 2003/0229543)

Claim 1 is amended to recite a roll of packaging material comprising: (a) a holder; (b) a strip of packaging material wound around said holder, said packaging material being a material for use in forming a package containing a product; and (c) a recording medium provided on said holder. As recited in the amended claim 1, said recording medium electromagnetically records packaging related information that is readable from said recording medium in a non-contact fashion through a resonance phenomenon of radio waves while said strip is wound around said holder.

Support for the amendments is found, for example, in FIGS. 5a through 5g, and, for example, in the disclosure on page 27, line 14, through page 32, line 15, of the specification.

In Takazono, a recording medium is not provided on a holder on which a strip of packaging material is wound. Instead, in Takazono, an identifier is provided *on the packaging material*. See, for example, symbol 11 in FIGS. 2, 4, 5 and 6 of Takazono.

Therefore, the general nature and use of the identifier in Takazono is significantly different than that recited, for example, in claim 1.

Zimmerman shows the general use of RFID. See, for example, paragraph [0038] of Zimmerman.

However, neither Zimmerman nor Takazono disclose or suggest the use of RFID in the specific situation where a recording medium is provided on a holder around which a strip of packaging material is wound as recited, for example, in claim 1.

Although the above comments are specifically directed to claim 1, it is respectfully submitted that the comments would be helpful in understanding various differences of various other claims over the cited references.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection is overcome.

V. NEW CLAIM

New claim 26 recites a support shaft having a reading device, and a holder having a hollow core so that the support shaft extends into the hollow core to thereby support the holder. As recited in claim 26, a recording medium is provided on an inner surface of the hollow core

and records packaging related information that is readable by the reading device while the strip is wound around the holder and the holder is supported by the support shaft.

Support for the new claim is found, for example, in FIGS. 5a through 5g, and, for example, in the disclosure on page 27, line 14, through page 32, line 15, of the specification.

None of the cited references disclose or suggest this combination of a support shaft having a reading device, wherein the support shaft extends into the hollow core of the holder and the reading device reads information in a recording medium provided on an inner surface of the hollow core.

VI. CONCLUSION

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

If any further fees are required in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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